



HR0894

LRB098 15077 MST 56545 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are pleased to recognize John Daniel Slater, Sr. on his life's accomplishments; and

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WHEREAS, John Slater, Sr. was born in Rolling Fork, Mississippi on March 8, 1919; he lived his early years in Deeson and Shelby, Mississippi; Memphis, Tennessee; and Venice and East St. Louis; and

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WHEREAS, John Slater, Sr. was drafted into the United States Army in 1942 and served in the 43rd Quartermaster Company as a First Cook; he also served in the 2nd Army and saw time in France, Belgium, Holland, and other parts of Europe; his company crossed the Rhine River on temporary bridges during heavy shelling, facing fierce opposition at every turn; at one point, he was separated from his company behind enemy lines for 3 months before being found 1,000 miles from their destination point; he was honorably discharged in 1946 and, as of today, is one of only 3 remaining African Americans who fought in the Battle of the Bulge, during this last-gasp effort by the German army; and

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WHEREAS, John Slater, Sr. settled in Waukegan in 1947 and began working for American Motors in 1949; he later worked as a

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1 Floater for 30 years at American Motors in Kenosha, Wisconsin,
2 before retiring in 1978; he opened Slater's Barbecue in 1957 on
3 Market Street in Waukegan and it became one of the most
4 affluent establishments in the area with people coming from all
5 over the North Shore for his famous home-made foot-long and
6 ribs; and

7 WHEREAS, John Slater, Sr. has been a pioneer business man
8 within the community of Waukegan; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
10 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
11 we recognize John Daniel Slater, Sr. on his his lifetime of
12 accomplishments, and wish him the best in all his future
13 endeavors; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That we designate March 8, 2014 as "John Daniel
15 Slater, Sr. Day" in the State of Illinois; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
17 presented to John Slater, Sr. as an expression of our esteem
18 and respect.